

Setting the Course at Your Site

The following instructions are the basic steps necessary to set up a simplified land navigation course at your site. This course would not utilize a compass for navigation unless you wished to include that component as an extension.

Tasks to complete the course:

1. Acquire or create a basic site map of the area you will be using. This could be a map of the school grounds, a topographic map of the local area, or a hand drawn map with all key features on it.
 - a. Clearly define the boundaries of the course on the map.
 - b. Add a compass rose on the map pointing to magnetic north.
2. Determine how many and the location of all the markers on the map.
 - a. Consider the age of your students, younger students should have few markers to find and they should be closer together while older students can have more markers and farther apart.
 - b. I would recommend 6 – 10 markers to start with within reasonable line of sight of each other, or at least easily located.
 - c. Make a master map with the location of each marker, identifying it by a number, letter, or color.
 - d. Make a student map identifying each location by number or letter.
3. Once the course is created, set the course using cones or boxes that are easily visible from a reasonable distance for the age group you are working with.
4. Place the item you wish to have the students mark their answer key with under the cone or in the box.
 - a. Use the key you created on the master map as your guide. Place pens or colored pens under the appropriate cone with the answer key for that cone.
 - b. I would suggest that you use a 3 x 5 card to write the number, letter or color the student is to write on their answer key.
 - c. Another suggestion is the use playing cards and have a different playing card under each cone and have the students identify the card by number and suit.
5. Using the attached keys, create multiple different orders for the students to complete the course in. For example, if you are using numbers though six, you might have the students travel in the following orders: 1,6,4,3,5,2 or 6,2,5,1,3,4 or 4,5,6,1,2,3, etc.
6. The course is now complete for the students to use.